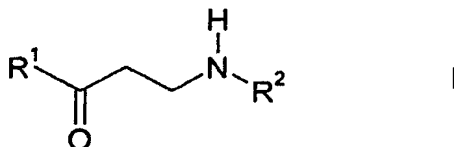


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Monoalkylaminoketones of the formula I

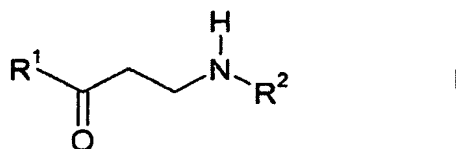


in which

- R^1 denotes a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R^3 and/or R^4 ,
 R^2 denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,
 R^3, R^4 each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR^2 , F, Cl, Br, OH, CN, NO_2 , $\text{N}(\text{R}^2)_2$ or NHCOR_2 ,

and salts and solvates thereof.

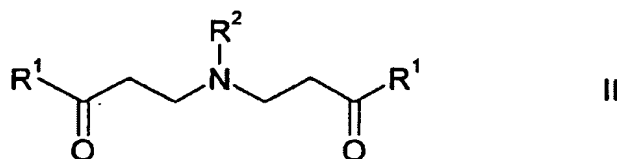
2. (Original) Process for the preparation of monoalkylaminoketones of the formula I



in which

- R^1 denotes a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R^3 and/or R^4 ,
 R^2 denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,
 R^3, R^4 each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR^2 , F, Cl, Br, OH, CN, NO_2 , $\text{N}(\text{R}^2)_2$ or NHCOR_2 ,

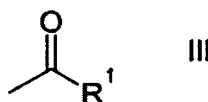
by reaction of compounds of the formula II



in which

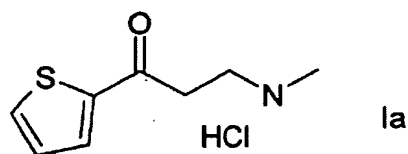
R^1 and R^2 have the meaning indicated above, in the presence of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , in which R^2 has the meaning indicated above.

3. (Original) Process according to Claim 1, in which R^1 denotes phenyl or 2-thienyl.
4. (Currently Amended) Process according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, in which R^2 denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.
5. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 3~~, characterised in that the pH for the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is adjusted to about pH 2-7.5 by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 .
6. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 4~~, characterised in that the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is carried out at 0° - 200°C.
7. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 5~~, characterised in that firstly the compound of the formula II is obtained by reaction of a mixture of a formaldehyde source with a corresponding alkylammonium salt and a ketone of the formula III

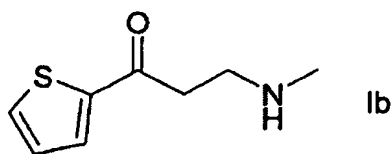


in which R^1 has the meaning indicated in Claim 1,
in the presence of a strong acid, and the compounds of the formula II obtained in this way are employed without further isolation for the preparation of the compounds of the formula I.

8. (Original) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 6, characterised in that the pH of the strongly acidic reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is increased to about pH 2-7.5, without further isolation of this compound, by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , and the mixture is subsequently warmed.
9. (Original) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 7, characterised in that the reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is warmed to 0°C to 200°C after addition of a corresponding alkylamine.
10. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 8~~ for the preparation of 3-methylamino-1-phenyl-1-propanone or 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone.
11. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 9~~, characterised in that an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula II is employed, and an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula I is obtained.
12. (Original) Compound of the formula Ia:

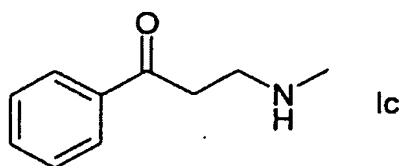


13. (Original) Compound of the formula Ib:



and salts and solvates thereof.

14. (Original) Compound of the formula Ic:



and salts and solvates thereof.